

Mobile Communication and Lovers: Effects of Messaging on Couples in a Committed, Romantic Relationship

Grace Collura ❖ Faculty Advisor Dr. Won Jang ❖ Communication and Journalism ❖ University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Acknowledgements: Dillon Baremore, Kally Luck, Cory Sartorelli, and Laura Spiegle



Background

- ♥ This research is significant to the communication field because the use of text messaging is becoming exponentially popular and is one of the fastest growing communication media within our society. It has drastically impacted and changed the dynamic of face-to-face communication.
- ♥ Because of new communication technologies, relationship dynamics are taking new shape and behaving differently than ever before. With the rapidly increasing use of text messaging, analyzing its influence on romantic relationships can provide uncovered information, and further elaborate on previous research.

Purpose

- ♥ The purpose of this study was to examine the theory that a relationship exists between the use of text messaging and romantic relationships.

Logic/Hypotheses

↑ Use of Text Messaging = Communication = ↑ Relationship Satisfaction

H1: Text messaging is positively correlated with overall research satisfaction between young adults in a romantic relationship.

↑ Relationship Length = ↑ Security/Trust = ↓ Use of Text Messaging

H2: Frequency of text messaging is negatively associated with romantic relationship length.

Measures

H1-Text Messaging/Relationship Satisfaction

- ♥ 5 Point Likert Scale
- ♥ 9 Questions
- ♥ Strongly Agree-Strongly Disagree

H2-Length of Relationship

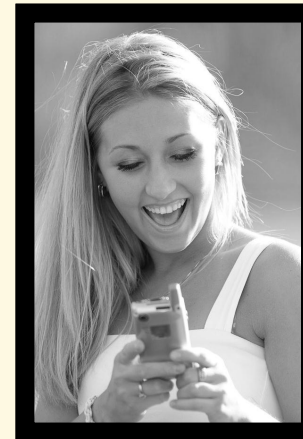
- ♥ Multiple Choice: Scale
- ♥ Frequency of Text Messaging
- ♥ Multiple Choice: Scale



Image Courtesy from Microsoft Clip Art

Results

- ♥ In analyzing the two hypotheses a Bivariate Correlational and a Chi-Square test were used.
- ♥ In order to examine **H1** if text messaging increased relationship satisfaction, variables were used to operationalize text messaging and then computed into four components. The reliability for text messaging was .63.
 - ♥ $r(192) = .001 < .001$
 - ♥ $r(192) = .002 < .001$
 - ♥ $r(192) = .020 < .001$
 - ♥ $r(192) = .526 > .001$ (not supported)
- ♥ **H1** partially supported
- ♥ For **H2** a Chi-Square test was used to test if frequency of text messaging within a relationship decreased as the relationship progressed.
 - ♥ $X^2(2, N = 192) = .103$
- ♥ **H2** not supported



Images Courtesy from Microsoft Clip Art



Conclusion

- ♥ Our research concludes that text messaging is used frequently within a romantic relationship but no evidence was found that it improves relationship satisfaction.

We thank the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for supporting this research, and Learning & Technology Services for printing this poster.